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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

STEPHEN F. GASS and ANDREW L. JOHNSTON

Date: March 7, 2004

Serial No. : 09/929,244 Examiner Thomas J. Druan  
Filed : August 13, 2001 Group Art Unit 3724  
For : BRAKE POSITIONING SYSTEM

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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**Substitute for form 1449A-B/PTC**

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Complete if Known	
Serial No.	09/929,244
Filing Date	August 13, 2001
First Named Inventor	Stephen F. Gass
Group Art Unit	3724
Examiner Name	Thomas J. Druan
Attorney Docket No.	SDT 308

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

#### **OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Translation or partial translation included.

(12) UK Patent Application (19) GB (11) 2 142 571 A

(43) Application published 23 Jan 1985

(21) Application No 8415911

(22) Date of filing 21 Jun 1984

(30) Priority data

(31) 2942/83

(32) 27 Jun 1983

(33) DK

(51) INT CL<sup>3</sup>  
B23D 45/06 47/02

(52) Domestic classification  
B5L 102 DS

(56) Documents cited  
None

(58) Field of search  
B5L

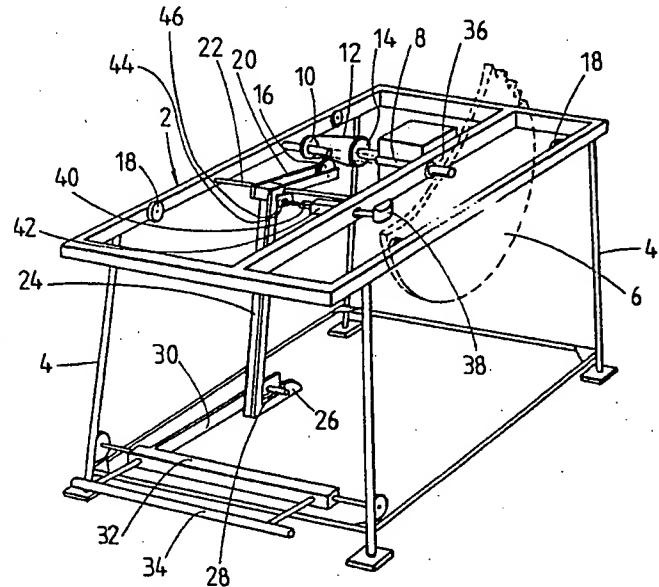
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(54) Circular saws

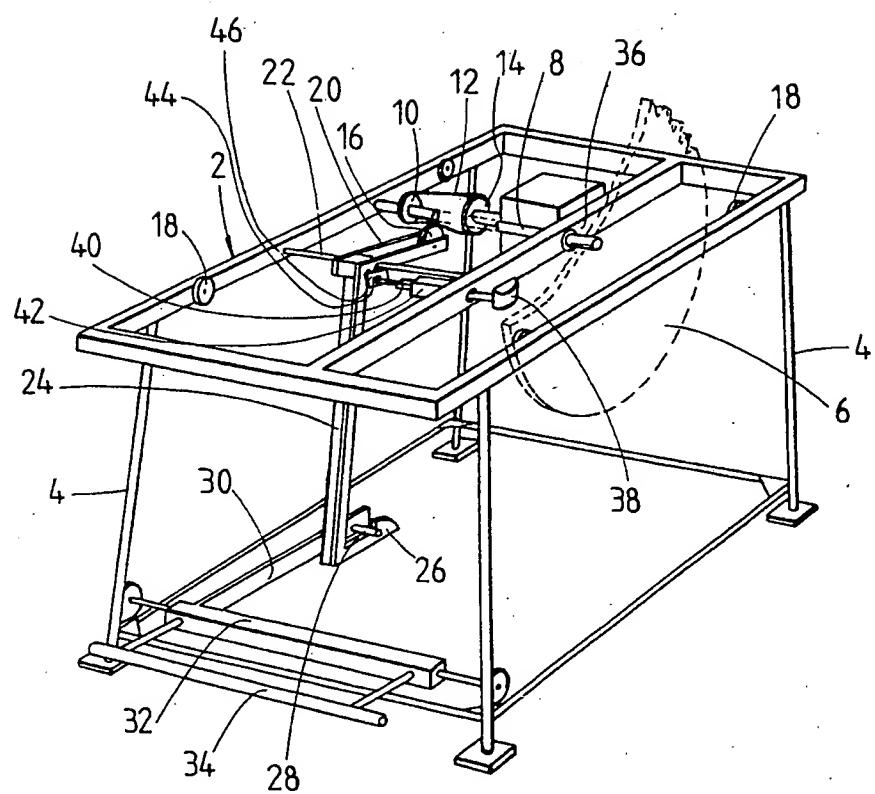
(57) A circular saw having an emergency release coupling 34, 24, 46, 40 is provided with a brake pad 38, which is actuated together with the release coupling so as to act as a disc brake pad 38 cooperating directly with the circular saw blade 6. With this arrangement the saw blade 6 will rapidly stop by an emergency release, even when it is otherwise idling.



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## SPECIFICATION

**A circular saw with emergency release coupling**

5 The present invention relates to a circular saw for wood, particularly for firewood or boards, and of the type having a support frame and a saw table, a motor or power intake being drivingly connected with the circular saw blade through a releasable 10 coupling as having a easily accessible actuator element.

Circular saws of this type are typically adapted to be drivingly connected with the rotating driving shaft of a tractor, and normally the saw blade is held 15 in constant operation through working periods of considerable lengths. However, the said coupling is required for enabling the saw blade to rapidly stop sawing, in case of need, and mostly the actuator element is constituted by a kick bar mounted so as to 20 enable to operator to easily and quickly release the coupling by the foot. Normally the coupling consists of a simple V-belt drive, the V-belt of which is slackened by the actuation of the kick bar, whereby the latter operates as an emergency stop.

25 Saws of the discussed type are normally provided with rather large saw blades having a considerable inertia. If the coupling is released during active sawing the saw blade will stop almost instantly by its friction with the workpiece, but if the release takes 30 place while the saw blade is idling the blade, by its inertia, will continue its rotation and hereby present a danger to the operator or others.

It is the purpose of the invention to provide a circular saw, in which this danger is counteracted.

35 The invention is based on the recognition that the saw blade itself is well suited for use as a disc brake element and that the actuator element of the coupling may, in a simple manner, be operatively connected with a brake shoe, such that a releasing of 40 the coupling will automatically effect a rapid stopping of the saw blade, also when the latter is idling. Thus, the invention provides for a very efficient 45 emergency braking in a very simple manner, viz. just by forcing a simple brake shoe against an already existing brake disc, namely the saw blade itself, in the lower inoperative area thereof.

According the circular saw of the present invention is characterized in that outside a side portion of the saw blade there is arranged a brake shoe, which 50 is operatively connected with the releasable drive coupling so as to be forced against the saw blade in response to the coupling being released.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention use is made of an axially displaceable brake rod, which 55 projects towards the side of the saw blade underneath the saw table, and a spring is held compressed such that a brake shoe at the end of the rod is located slightly spaced from the side of the saw blade, while the other end of the rod cooperates with the actuator 60 element of the coupling in such a cam controlled manner that the brake rod is displaced towards the saw blade in response to the actuator element being operated for releasing the coupling. Hereby a simple, robust and safely operating arrangement is 65 achieved.

In the following the invention is described in more detail with reference to the accompanying drawing, which, partly in section, shows a perspective view of a circular saw according to the invention.

70 The circular saw conventionally comprises a support having a top frame 2 and a number of legs 4. The saw blade, designated 6, is mounted on a shaft 8 as driven by a V-belt pulley 10. The pulley 10 is driven through a belt 12 from or by another pulley 75 14, which is itself, in a manner not illustrated, driven by a motor or by a coupling member to be connected with the rotating drive shaft of a tractor. The belt 12 is overlong, but is held tight by means of a pressure roller 16, such that the saw blade may work continuously.

On the top frame is mounted a number of upwardly projecting rollers 18 for supporting a reciprocable saw table in well known and non-illustrated manner. The saw table has an upstanding 85 half screen normally covering the rear upper half of the saw blade.

The pressure roller 16 is mounted at the outer end of a pivot level 20, which is rigidly mounted on a rotatable cross shaft 22 as additionally connected 90 with a depending actuator arm 24. This arm, at its lower end, has a hook member 26 cooperating with a pawl 28 on a releaser arm 30, the front end of which is rigidly connected with a rotatable cross rod 32 as provided with a forwardly projecting structure including a foot bar 34. When this foot bar is pressed downwardly the releaser arm 30 is swung upwardly so as to liberate the hook member 26 from the pawl 28, whereby the pressure roller 16, because of its own weight and the weight of the pivot level 20 and 95 optionally assisted by a spring force, will swing downwardly during forward pivoting of the actuator arm 24. By the associated lowering of the pressure roller 16 the belt 12 will get slackened sufficiently to immediately break the drive operation of the belt.

100 105 The saw so far described is well known in the art. The top frame 2 comprises a beam 36 carrying the main bearing of the saw blade 6. According to the invention a brake shoe 38 is arranged near this beam and near the relevant side of the saw blade 6. The

110 brake shoe is mounted on a brake rod 40 as projecting towards the left through a rigid guide bushing 42 and ending in an axially adjustable screw 44. Outside this screw is provided a cam plate member 46 connected with the rotary shaft 22, e.g.,

115 mounted on a part of the pivot level 20 or the actuator arm 24, the cam plate member 46 being so positioned and inclined as to be moved, by the said release pivoting of the arm system 20,24, from an inactive position, in which it is either out of engagement with the adjacent end of the brake rod 40, when

120 the latter is held by a separate, fixed stop, or forms an abutment for the brake rod in the illustrated position thereof, to an active position, in which it forces the brake rod 40 forwardly towards the saw blade 6, such that the saw blade will be stopped by the associated frictional engagement with the brake shoe 38.

125 For restarting the saw blade the operator just has to use a foot for urging the actuator arm 24 forwardly, whereby the pawl engagement 26,28 is

reestablished and the cam plate member 46 causes the brake rod 40 and the brake shoe 38 to be retracted from the saw blade by virtue of the said spring, and at the same time the pressure roller 16 is 5 swung upwardly so as to reactivate the belt drive coupling.

As shown in the drawing Figure the brake shoe 38 cooperates with the saw blade 6 in an area well spaced from the centre of the blade, i.e. the braking 10 momentum can be rather high without the use of any special or separate brake disc. It has been found that an ordinary circular saw blade is perfectly suited to resist a braking pressure of the required magnitude without requiring a counter pressure brake on 15 the other side of the blade.

The shaft 22 of the pivot lever 22 and the cam plate member 46 is mounted axially non-displaceable. In that case the remaining construction may be produced with rather coarse tolerances, since the brake 20 rod 40 is easy to adjust into an exactly correct position by adjusting the screw 44 or a corresponding abutment means, which should, of course, be locked in its adjusted position.

The invention is not limited to the embodiment 25 shown, as the brake shoe may be otherwise actuated by the release of the driving coupling. The brake rod may be arranged so as to be forced towards the saw blade with a well defined spring force, while the cam control should then be designed to respond to the 30 release of the coupling by releasing the brake rod from a normally retracted position, in which it is held by the cam member.

#### CLAIMS

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1. A circular saw for wood, particularly for firewood and boards, and of the type having a support frame and a saw table, a motor or power intake being drivingly connected with the circular saw 40 blade through a releasable coupling as having an easily accessible actuator element, characterized in that outside a side portion of the saw blade there is arranged a brake shoe, which is operatively connected with the releasable drive coupling so as to be 45 forced against the saw blade in response to the coupling being released.

2. A circular saw according to claim 1, in which the brake shoe is mounted on an axially displaceable brake rod, which, by means of a cam control device, 50 is operable to get displaced towards the saw blade in response to actuation of a pivotable coupling release system.

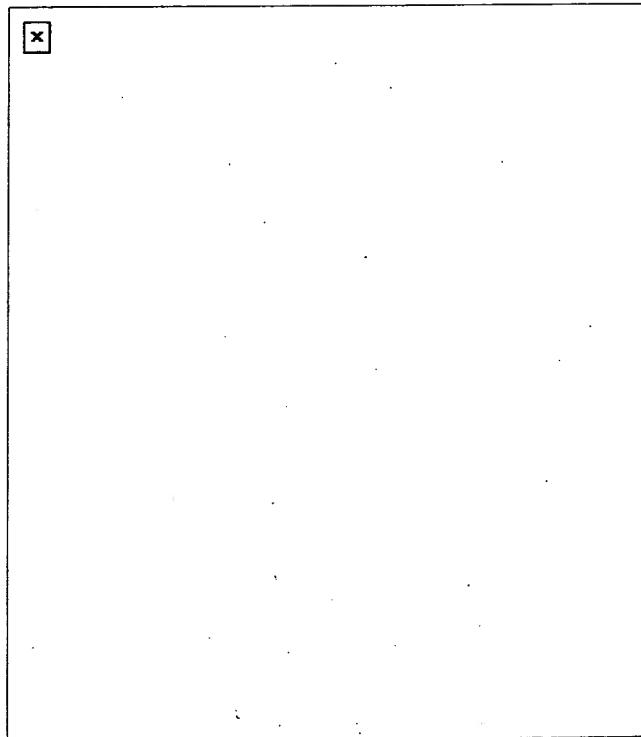
3. A circular saw according to claim 1, substantially as shown and described.

**Circular saw with a run-down brake**

**Patent number:** DE3427733  
**Publication date:** 1986-01-30  
**Inventor:** RAICHLE DIETER (DE)  
**Applicant:** REICH MASCHF GMBH KARL (DE)  
**Classification:**  
- international: B23D45/16; B27G19/02  
- european: B27B5/38  
**Application number:** DE19843427733 19840727  
**Priority number(s):** DE19843427733 19840727

**Abstract of DE3427733**

For braking the circular saw blade (4) in circular saws in the run-down phase, a braking device (6) is provided which can be actuated by an electromagnet (7) and the brake shoe (9) of which interacts with the circular saw blade (4). The braking device (6) is thus reliably released as the electric motor (3) is switched on and the operator can concentrate fully on his work. After the electric motor (3) is switched off, he is protected from injury by virtue of the relatively short run-down time of the circular saw blade (4).



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(9) BUNDESREPUBLIK  
DEUTSCHLAND



DEUTSCHES  
PATENTAMT

(12) Offenlegungsschrift  
(11) DE 3427733 A1

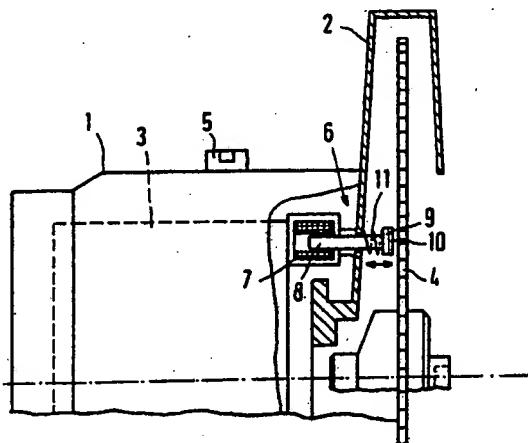
(5) Int. Cl. 4:  
B 23 D 45/16  
B 27 G 19/02

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(54) Kreissäge mit Auslaufbremse

Zum Abbremsen des Kreissägeblatts (4) bei Kreissägen in der Auslaufphase ist eine Bremsvorrichtung (6) vorgesehen, die durch einen Elektromagnet (7) betätigbar ist und deren Bremsbacken (9) mit dem Kreissägeblatt (4) zusammenwirkt. Die Bremsvorrichtung (6) wird damit zuverlässig zusammen mit dem Einschalten des Elektromotors (3) gelöst und der Bedienungsmann kann sich voll auf seine Arbeit konzentrieren. Nach Abschalten des Elektromotors (3) ist er durch die geringere Auslaufzeit des Kreissägeblatts (4) vor Verletzungen geschützt.



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25. Juli 1984  
Reg. Nr. 2.38

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P A T E N T A N S P R Ü C H E

- 1) Kreissäge mit Auslaufbremse mit einem Gehäuse mit Elektromotor zum Antrieb eines Kreissägeblatts und mit einer am Gehäuse angeordneten Bremsvorrichtung, die das Kreissägeblatt in seiner Auslauf- und Ruhephase abbremst, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß die Bremsvorrichtung (6) durch einen Elektromagnet (7) betätigbar ist.
- 2) Kreissäge nach Anspruch 1, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß der Elektromagnet (7) so mit dem Elektromotor (3) elektrisch verbunden ist, daß er beim Einschalten des Elektromotors ebenfalls unter Spannung gesetzt wird und die Bremse (9) löst.
- 3) Kreissäge nach Anspruch 1 oder 2, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß die Bremsvorrichtung (6) mit dem Kreissägeblatt (4) zusammenwirkt.

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Kreissäge mit Auslaufbremse

Die Erfindung betrifft eine Kreissäge mit Auslaufbremse gemäß Oberbegriff von Anspruch 1.

Dazu ist es aus der US-PS 3 224 474 bei einer Handkreissäge bekannt, das Sägeblatt nach dem Abschalten des Elektromotors in der Auslauf- und Ruhephase durch einen Bremsschuh zu bremsen, der unter Wirkung einer Feder auf eine mit dem Elektromotor verbundene Bremstrommel drückt. Es besteht eine mechanische Verbindung zwischen Einschaltdrücker und Bremse, so daß diese gelöst wird, wenn der Elektromotor über den Einschaltdrücker eingeschaltet wird.

Dabei muß natürlich die Kraft der Druckfeder durch den Finger des Bedienungsmannes überwunden werden und diese Kraft wirkt auch während der gesamten Betriebsphase der Maschine. Für den Bedienungsmann bedeutet dies eine unangenehme und ermüdende Belastung. Außerdem ist eine gesonderte Bremstrommel vorgesehen, die einen zusätzlichen Aufwand und Verteuerung der Maschine bedeutet.

Aufgabe der vorliegenden Erfindung ist daher die Schaffung einer Kreissäge mit Auslaufbremse, die ein sicheres Abbremsen des Sägeblatts beim Auslauf ohne Beanspruchung des Bedienungsmannes erlaubt.

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Diese Aufgabe wird erfindungsgemäß durch das im kennzeichnenden Teil von Anspruch 1 angegebene Merkmal gelöst.

Die Bremse wird damit zuverlässig zusammen mit dem Einschalten des Elektromotors gelöst und der Bedienungsmann kann sich voll auf seine Arbeit konzentrieren.

Da die Bremsbacke direkt auf das Kreissägeblatt drückt, ist keine gesonderte Bremstrommel notwendig, die gesamte Maschine wird damit einfacher und billiger.

Die erfindungsgemäße Vorrichtung lässt sich vorteilhafterweise bei Handkreissägen verwenden, es ist jedoch auch möglich, sie an stationären Kreissägen anzubringen.

Es ergibt sich eine geringe Auslaufzeit des Sägeblatts und besonders bei stationären Tischkreissägen ein größerer Schutz vor Verletzungen des Bedienungsmanns.

Im folgenden ist ein Ausführungsbeispiel der Erfindung unter Bezugnahme auf die Zeichnung näher beschrieben, die den Teil einer Handkreissäge mit Auslaufbremse schematisch darstellt.

Bei der schematisch dargestellten Handkreissäge ist in einem Gehäuse 1 mit Schutzhülle 2 ein Elektromotor 3 gelagert, der ein Kreissägeblatt 4 antreibt. Der Elektromotor 3 ist durch einen von Hand bedienbaren Schalter 5 ein- und ausschaltbar.

An der Schutzhülle 2 ist eine Bremsvorrichtung 6 für das Kreissägeblatt 4 vorgesehen, in dem ein Elektromagnet 7 so an der Schutzhülle 2 angebracht ist, daß ein Magnet-

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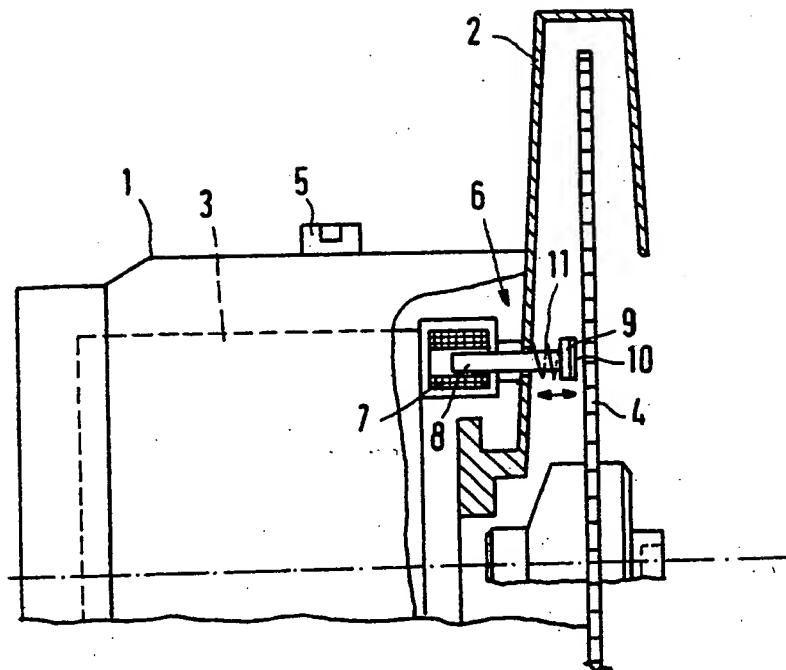
kern 8 die Schutzhäube durchdringt und an seinem dem Kreissägeblatt 4 zugekehrten Ende mit einem Bremsbacken 9 mit Bremsbelag 10 versehen ist.

Eine Druckfeder 11 ist so zwischen Schutzhäube 2 und Bremsbacken 9 angeordnet, daß sie den Bremsbelag bei ausgeschaltetem Elektromotor gegen das Kreissägeblatt 4 drückt.

Die Magnetspule des Elektromagneten 7 ist nun elektrisch so mit dem Schalter 5 verbunden, daß der Magnetkern 8 beim Einschalten der Maschine angezogen wird. Damit wird das Kreissägeblatt 4 frei und kann vom Elektromotor 3 angetrieben werden. Nach dem Ausschalten des Elektromotors 3 wird auch der Elektromagnet 7 gleichzeitig ausgeschaltet, der Bremsbacken 9 legt sich unter Wirkung der Druckfeder 11 gegen das Kreissägeblatt und bremst dieses sicher ab.

- 5 -

Nummer: 34 27 733  
Int. Cl.<sup>4</sup>: B 23 D 45/16  
Anmeldetag: 27. Juli 1984  
Offenlegungstag: 30. Januar 1986



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